this made two doors opening into it.

On ordinary occasions these were locked after the President entered the ox, but on this evening, for some unxplained reason, neither was.

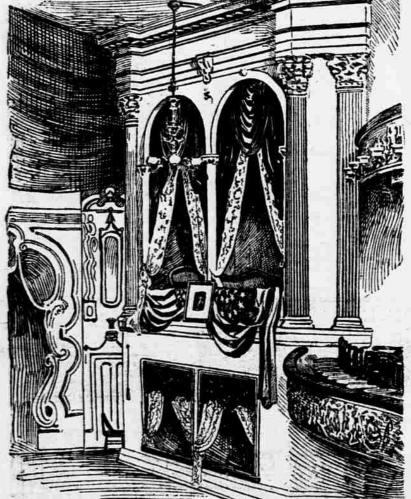
At 11:30 in the morning Booth had Oribune.

(Copyright, 1909, by John McElroy.) By JOHN MCELROY.

CHAPTER LXVIII. '

For much of the information connected with the assassination of President Lincoln I am indebted to the pacoin's assassination and his assassin. from overcrowded Europe. I intend Camera in hand, he left what was to point them to the gold and silver Ford's Theater at the time of the murithat waits for them in the West. Tell

leasler. Now, I am going to encourage that in every possible way. We have hundreds of thousands of disbanded soldiers, and many have feared that their return home in such great numbers might paralyze industry by furnishing studies. dent Lincoln I am indebted to the patient studies embodied in the valuable little book written by Comrade O. H. Oldroyd, who has devoted his life to collecting relies of Lincoln, and is now the owner of the Lincoln collection in Washington displayed in the house where the President died, and who has made a special study of Lincoln's essessingtion and his essessing the paralyze industry by furnishing suddenly a greater supply of law going to attract them to the hidden wealth of our mountain ranges, where there is room enough for all minigration, which even the war has not stopped, will land upon our shores hundreds of thousands more per year



THE BOX AT FORD'S THEATER, OCCUPIED BY THE PRESIDENT AND PAR TY.

In the evening Mr. Colfax returned and he and the President were still

engaged in conversation when, at 8 o'clock, Mrs. Lincoln entered the room, and reminded the President that it was

time for them to start for the theater. With a parting injunction to the Speak-

er as to giving the miners his message

the President followed Mrs. Lincoln into their carriage, and was driven to

the house of Senator Harris, where

they picked up Maj. Rathbone and Miss Harris. They reached the theater at 8:30. As the Chief Executive en-

tered the brilliantly lighted auditorium

the entire audience rose to their feet with enthusiastic cheers, to which the President responded by a bow from

the flag-festooned box which had been

Ford's Theater.

Ford's Theater, then the best in Washington, would make a very shab-

by appearance among the magnificent

temples devoted to the drama to-day

It was as plain a structure as bricks

mortar and shingles could make it, and its exterior could not have been less

pretentious had it been intended for a

cooper shop of a warehouse. It was situated on 10th street, between E and

an enterprising theatrical manager, had bought it and converted it into a play-house. Mr. Harry C. Ford had deco-rated and furnished the President's box. He draped flags over the sides of the box, and hung one of fine silk from

the center. The ordinary chairs were

removed, and their places taken by a sofa, some high-backed chairs and a

nearest the audience for the use of the

This latter was placed

assigned him.

rocking-chair.

more gold and silver we mine makes partition separating the two had been the payment of that debt so much the taken out to make it a single box, and

the circumstances.-John Mc-

Off for the Theater. During the day of Friday, April 14, Mrs. Lincoln agreed to bring the Presiand Gen. and Mrs. Grant to attend the theater in the evening. Miss



O. H. OLDROYD.

Laura Keene, then one of the greatest of American actresses, had been play-ing a season of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theater, on 16th street. This season was to end that evening with a benefit to Miss Keene, who was gener ally popular, and it was particularly desired that the attendance should be made as large as possible, and to achieve this the announcement had been made that the President and the victor of Ap pomattox were to be in the audience. Kind-hearted Mrs. Lincoln was only too willing to ail Miss Reene, of whom she was quite fond. Gen. and Mrs. Grant at first accepted Mrs. Lincoln's Grant at first accepted Mrs. Lincoln's invitation, but later in the day decided that it was best for them to go to Burlington, N. J., to visit their sons, who were at school there, and left Washington at 6 o'clock in the evening. Mrs. Lincoln then asked Maj. Rathbone and Miss Clara Harris to accompany the President and berself. company the President and herself to take the places in the box intended for Gen. and Mrs. Grant. Earlier in the day President Lincoln had said to Speaker Colfax, who was about to make trip to the mining regions of the

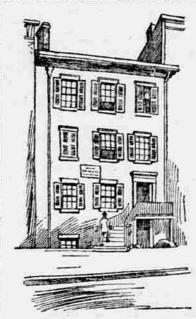
"I want you to take a message from "I want you to take a message from me to the miners whom you visit. I have very large ideas of the mineral wealth of our Nation. I believe it practically inexhaustible. It exists all over the Western country, from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific, and its development has scarcely commenced. During the war, when we were adding a couple of millions of dollars every day to our National debt, I did not care about encouraging the increase in the volume of our precious intention. It is believed that Spangler bored a hole in the door of the box thru which one could peep and see the President, and that he also loosened the first. But now that the rebellion is boxes, so that they could be quickly

come to the theater to get his mall, read his letters, and learned of the President's intention to be at the play in the evening. Booth probably decided then upon the execution of his tesign, and spent the rest of the hours



cousin, was having an angry parley ics into shape for Congressional peru-with "Mrs. Mountchesington," to whom he had replied: "Society, eh? Well, he had replied: "Society, eh? Well, I guess I know enough to turn you inside out, old woman, you darned old sockdologing man-trap." As he repeated these words he looked up at the President, while the audience shook with laughter. It was then just 20 minutes past 10 o'clock. Booth had stealthily entered the box without being noticed by those occupying it, so intent were they upon the stage. Coming close behind the unsuspecting President, he fired his heavy Derringer directly into the back of his head. Mrs. Lincoln was the first to notice this, and screamed loudly. Maj. Rathbone sprang up and grappied Booth, who broke loose from him, and in doing so stabbed Lincoln was the first to notice this, and serve the personal loudy. Maj. Rathbone sprang up and grappled Booth, who broke plant the back of his head. Mrs. It is a self or herself with more of less scrious to be known as that of Under Secretary Knox's efforts to persuade Congress to authorize an office to be known as that of Under Secretary—Work of personal congress to authorize an office to be known as that of Under Secretary—Work of personal congress to authorize an office to be known as that of Under Secretary—Work of the surcease of Summer. The President has been absent from making a lump appropriation of \$100.

The President has been absent from this hand. He had dropped the Derringer on the floor. Rathbone rushed him and sprang out of the box to the state week. His visit 60 New York and to New Haven of a few days were followed by the death of his ween arise of the past week. His visit 60 New York and to New Haven of a few days were followed by the death of his ween arise of the status of public because of the status of public because



and Booth himself in his diary says that he exclaimed it before he fired the shot, which we all know to be unhorse and galloped away like mad thru the eastern part of the city, over the and Dr. Mudd's house.

The Wild Excitement. When the fatal shot was fired few in an audience noticed it, and those who did thought it was part of the play. Several men near the stage, however, realized that something serious had Spangler failed in his part. He was familiar with the gas-lighting, which was worked, as is usual in theaters, by levers in a box near the prompter. Spangler had intended to turn all the ights out the minute Booth had committed his crime, so as to enable him to escape in darkness. This was un-consciously prevented by the leader of

regimental Surgeon and wearing his full uniform, made his way to the stage, and was lifted by men into the first. But now that the rebellion is boxes, so that they could be quickly stage, and was lifted by men late the overthrown and we know pretty nearly pushed open. The box was usually a president's box. A hasty examination the amount of our National debt, the double one, but on this occasion the of the wound made Surg. Taft order

(Continued on page six.)

HOLIDAY SEASON AT WASHINGTON.

A Fortnight of Vacation for Congress-Politics and Business, Nevertheless, Claims Attention-The Supreme Court and the Diplomatic Corps Now Filled.

the Fourth of July, the observation is not to be compared with the jollities and happiness of the Yuletide season. and happiness of the Yuletide season.
So Congress agreed early to adjourn
for the holiday recess on the Tuesday
preceding Christmas. Grave problems
of state are thrust aside in the Departments till the New Year is heralded
with the ringing of bells and the blowing of horns. The tens of thousands of
clerks and subordinate employes are

share. He went to a livery stable and as gay socially for years, for this is the engaged a saddle horse, which he put first Winter of a new Administration, in a stable in the rear of the theater. which means new magnates and dig-

In a stable in the rear of the theater. He was seen at various times during the day, and at 10:10 p. m. he entered a saloon and called for a glass of brandy. After drinking this he went to the theater, spoke to the doorkeeper as he passed in, and ascended to the dress circle, which was on the same level as the President's box. He moved quietly and without attracting attention, stopping occasionally to take a look at the stage. The play had progressed to the closing of the second scene in the third act, and all eyes were fixed upon the actors. Harry Hawk, as "Asa Trenchard," the Yankee troublesome special messages about amendments to the interstate commerce law, about conservation and about three or four other promised topcousin, was having an angry parley ics into shape for Congressional peru-

District of Columbia appropriation bill. supplying funds for the expenses of the lovernment on the north side of the Potomac, was disposed of. The Senate has continued to mark time, but closed in a burst of energy. This was devoted, however, to purely executive work, such as the confirmation of nominations. The most notable in this line was the con-firmation of Associate Justice Horace H. Lurton for the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court now has its full quota of nine Justices, altho one of them, Mr. Justice Moody, is still ill with rheumatic troubles in Massachusetts, and probably will be unable to resume his duties for a long while. But early in the New Year Justice Lurton will don his black gown every working day at noon, fall in at the rear of the line of Justices who march to the bench in solemn single file, and take his place at the far end of the bench, as the youngest of the Justices in point of service There has been a vast deal of murmuring over the nomination, but it came to naught, as there was not sufficient op-position to prevent either his nomina-F streets, was three stories high, 71 feet front and 100 deep. It had been a Baptist Church before Mr. John Ford, a Baptist Church before Mr. John Ford, DIED.

Judiciary Committee reported the non-ination to the Senate unanimously after a delay of several days, Its members had all been polled by President Taft tion or his confirmation. The Senate Judiciary Committee reported the nomin advance.

There was some reluctance in the committee about assenting to the nomithe shot, which we all know to be untrue. As soon as he could straighten up Booth rushed behind the scenes, down the stairs to the alley, where Burroughs, the boy who sold peanuts about the theater, was holding his horse. He was so excited that as he took the bridle he knocked the boy down with a blow of his knife, cursing him as he did so. He sprang upon the horse and galloped away like mad thru dent against making the nomination. dent against making the nomination. On the other hand, the new Justice had active and influential friends, who were bridge across the Anacostia, and out into Maryland to Mrs. Surratt's Tavern alert to point out his many strong qualities and to the surrous strong qualities and to the surrous strong qualities. ities and to champion his cause agains

The Diplomatic Service.

President Taft has conduded his se ections of Embassadors and Ministers, o that the Administration will start off realized that something serious had happened, and sprang on the stage to matic roster. A batch of nominations catch Booth. It was here that Edward Spangler falled in his part. He was warded to the Senate Monday and most of these were promptly confirmed, so that the new men may proceed forth-with to their posts and be ready to take up whatever negotiations may be in prospect affecting the enforcement of the maximum tariff against foreign Nations. Ex-Secretary of State Robert Bacon, of New York, is named for Em-bassador to France; Richard C. Kerens, the orchestra coming up to talk to the prompter and taking his seat on the box. The intricacies of the scenery box. The intricacies of the scenery minister to Belgium, as Embassador to Minister to Belgium, as Embassador to were much needed for the proper administer are Minister to Belgium, as Embassador to Mexico. Then several Ministers are nominated, including Charles Page Bryan, who has been Minister to Portugal, as Minister to Belgium, and John B. Jackson, who has been Minister to Persia, as Minister to Caba.

The President has decided to continue Whitelaw Reid, of New York, as Embassador to Great Bulain, and Dr. David Jayne Hill, of New York, as Embassador to Germany. Beth these officials were appointed by President Roosevelt. It was the President's original intention to accept the resignation

tinue Whitelaw Reid, of New York, as Embassador to Great Britain, and Dr. David Jayne Hill, of New York, as Embassador to Germany. Both these officials were appointed by President Roosevelt. It was the President's original intention to accept the resignation of Embassador Reid in time for his successor to qualify early in the New Year,

This is the happiest week of all the official year in Washington. Officialdom is driving dull care away to the distant and inconspicuous background. For while officialdom observes Thanksgiving and Washington's birthday and the Fourth of July, the observation is not to be compared with the joilities and bappiness of the Yuletide season. expects to have new men in all four of those places. Many believe that his half-brother, ex-Representative Charles P. Taft, may serve as Embassador

Reid's successor.
The President's Embassadorial nominations have all met with the complete approval of the Senate, with the excep-tion of ex-Secretary of State Bacon. There is considerable opposition to him in both branches of Congress, because of complaints of Senators and Representatives regarding the treatment ac-corded them at the State Department, both while Mr. Bacon was Assistant Secretary and later while he was Secre-tary during the last month of the tary during the last month of the Roosevelt Administration. Senator Root, of New York, who was long the colleague of Mr. Bacon in the State Department, has been combatting this opposition, which probably will be smoothed over, so as to assure Mr. Bacon's speedy departure for Paris. There are important negotiations under way are important negotiations under way with the French Government regarding the maximum tariff, and the presence of an American Embassador there is

DEPARTMENT REFORMS.

Troubles in the State and Other Departments-Uphill Work in Getting Reforms.

There are troubles brewing for the State Department. The Appropriations Committees are getting after that executive branch "with a picket stick," and wanting to know why this is so and why that is so. The murmurings, however, are chiefly on the House side of the Capitol. The well-known demoraliza-tion of the official force there, due in some measure to the interference of in-fluential Senators with the personnel, is the theme upon which members of the House are fond of dwelling. The immediate beginning of this con-

has to be turned thru the Bureaus and thru the Counsellor, whom Secretary Knox has selected. There is much confusion as to where authority and responsibility are. The Assistant Secretaries do not drive their horses well with Mr. Hoyt. It is often fortunate if business is disposed of at all. The situation has become such that the in-creased number of employes has resultd in delating rather than advancing

cause Congress appropriated specificaly for them. But Congress did not de-ine the lines of the new organization of the Department, and with the incuremendously in volume and even in mportance.

every few years with the increase in business and the inevitable changes in the character of work to be done. The egislators thus drive Cabinet officers to distraction, and round-about ways are various Executive Departments is so Pacific Coasts of Nicaragua are expect-sought to accomplish what Congress backward this year that the committees ed to furnish the motive power for

ought to do my direct enactments.

Troubles in the Treasury and Navy. Just now Secretary Knox is not the only Cabinet official laboring under this particular difficulty. The Secretary of the Navy is trying to get his Bureaus reorganized, as has been widely told. But that followed after very earnest efforts had been made to get Congress to legislate. Bill after bill had been the D introduced for the reorganization, only heard. to be allowed to sleep in some of the to get the hearings out of the way early, thousands of cubby holes which Conso that they can have their bills made gress has for unpopular measures.

he can administer without legislation he is asked if he knew that was not original, but had been advocated by his or that Congressman. Secretary Meyer had that experience the other day with the Naval Affairs Committee, where he had been called to testify about the recent sweeping changes in the administration of the Bureaus.

It was only about 12 years ago that Congress did reorganize the accounting systems of the Treasury Department, but in the interim the Treasury busiwere much needed for the proper administration of the Treasury, incorporated into law have in the main failed.

An archalc system of account keeping has prevailed in the Post Office Department. It was good when installed, but new and improved methods have been devised, and in that Department, too, the business has grown way beyond the hounds in the days when the accounting the provisions of legislation.

Andrew Carnegie, the iron master, who has been here for several days attending the opening of a new building for the Carnegie Institute, of his founding. He attended a luncheon a few days age which John Barrett, Director of the Sureau of American Republics, gave. Secretary Knox, ex-Secretary Root and all the Ministers of the Southern Reprovisions of legislation.

Uncle Sam's Christmas.

tial reforms, and Congress has confined Naval authorities are disposed now to

The spirit of Department reform and eorganization has been strong under this Administration. The President has favored it, and his Cabinet officers have favored it. Congress, on the other hand, is holding back, and all along the line Departmental reorganization is proving uphill work.

THE APPROPRIATION BILLS.

der by the way Booth did, and walked the miners, from me, that I shall proover the route Booth followed in his mote their interests to the umost of
flight, clear to the Garrett barn. Comrade Oldroyd took views of all the
the prosperity of the Nation; and we
points along the route, and interviewed
shall prove in a very few years that
the neighbors who knew anything
all the neighbors who knew anything
the white House offices, few callers
the discrepancy as to
the time of Booth's shouting: Sic semthe time of Booth's shouting: S the Department shall be transacted.

Back of these Assistant Secretaries are powerful Senators. Their positions are so secure that it is hardly to be thought they can be removed. But more and more business of necessity well out of the way before the holidays But this particular Cabinet official has not formulated his plans or mad his recommendations. Accordingly his subordinates were not ready to appear before the committee and announce their program for appropriations. The committee has been waiting, simply

> He wants an official a little higher than an Assistant Secretary, to whom he can delegate authority. The Bureaus he has established are within the law, he-before the holidays, it is customary for States preferred to settle her own quargo far toward preparing legislation for the post-holiday period. American neighbor. But the Mexican

> bus of incompetent Assistant Secretaries Committee of the House, but the Navai has given out a statement about the resultant is confusion. Meanwhile the work of the Department is growing the Agricultural Committee and the Inthe United States never being more cordian Committee, have appropriation dial than it is right at this very minute, bills to prepare. These bills involve the Secretary Knox intends that Nicara-Congress is very averse to authorizing feorganizations in the several Departments, even the it is recognized that Departmental organizations fossilize overy few years with the increase in business and the inevitable changes in these bills has gone forward satisfac-torily, but on the whole the work of the have often to wait for information bringing about that kind of an election

After the hearings, which generally are printed in pamphlet form for reference as well as for purposes of a permanent record, quite a time is necessary to make up the bills. The amount to be appropriated under this head and that head has to be determined upon after the Departmental officials have been heard. The committee Chairmen like to get the hearings out of the way early, ress has for unpopular measures.

Then when the Secretary gets before days. They then have a better chance eration in the Senate and often the signing of the appropriation law in advance of the end of the session, so that

The Naval Appropriation Bill.

One set of hearings, however, that is being disposed of rapidly is that on the Navy appropriation bill. Admirals and Captains galore have been tramping to the rooms of the Naval Affairs Committee of late every forenoon, and telling of the requirements of the saving control of the rooms of the saving control of the rooms of the rooms of the saving control of the rooms of the ing of the requirements of the service, very strong critics. One of these is and standing cross-examinations before Andrew Carnegie, the iron master, who

tial reforms, and Congress has commed itself to grumbling because of the extravagance in the Department.

The spirit of Department reform and well as land service the same as heretofore. The marine officers, who have resisted the removal of their men from warships, feel satisfied that that struggle is over for many years to come.
There are so many other things that
the Navy wants from Congress it is unlikely that the old controversy will be

The Waterways Commission.

Another belated Government branch his year is the Waterways Commission,

President Zelava a Bad Citizen. Conflicting Views as to What Should Be Done.

The Central American tempest still rages, and is kicking up numerous little fusses. When President Zelaya re-signed, under pressure from Washingwaiting, and the present prospect is ton, as he claimed, the movements of a that it will have to go ahead without the required information from the Cabdent Diaz was willing to give the deinet official, but depend upon its being posed Nicaraguan safe conduct on board furnished later on, perhaps when the that ship to some Mexican port. This It seems inevitable that Congress will be compelled to take cognizance of the situation. Mr. Knox is insistent upon having an Under Secretary of State.

It seems inevitable that Congress will furnished later on, perhaps when the appropriation bill in question reaches started reports of Mexico's undue the Senate.

There are numerous instances like Senor Don Enrique C. Creel, the special before the holidays, it is customary for States preferred to settle her own quarthe various committees of the House to rels with the troublesome Central

Not only the regular Appropriation taken Zelaya on board, and Senor Creel which should be ready on the very first day of the session.

The Zelayans have undertaken to install Jose Madriz, Judge of the Central

Various Schemes and Plans.

Influential men at Washington would like to see Mexico annex the Central American States, because, while that Government might not be ideal, it would undoubtedly be a great improvement over the present status. Other equally influential public men here think it would be better if eventually the United a House or Senate committee with any to obtain early consideration in the States should affect that the plan of reorganization which he finds the control of our Canal Zone. Still others hope for a speedy federation of the Central American States, so that they can set up a there will not be the usual crush just better Government of their own with a before Congress is getting ready to go prospect of less turbulence and of fewer revolutions.

Wires have been pulled to further all